

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEL AV 01529 071403Z

72

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

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R 071328Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5892

INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 1529

EXDIS

E.O.11652: GDS

TAGS: AORG, PORG, UNESCO, US

SUBJECT: ISRAEL AND UNESCO

REF: A. STAT 47537

B. TEL AVIV 6387(NOV 5, 1974)

1. WE HAD OCCASION MARCH 6 TO SPEAK WITH MFA ASST DIRGEN KIDRON(INT'L ORG) ABOUT RECENT EXHCNAGE OF COMMUNICATIONS WITH UNESCO DIRGEN M'BOW RE LEMAIRE VISITING JERUSALEM. KIDRON ACKNOWLEDGED THAT ISRAELI REJECTION OF M' BOW PROPOSAL MIGHT LOOK"TOUGH" , BUT SAID THAT FAULD WAS M'BOW'S. KIDRON SAID M'BOW HADPUT ISRAELIS IN IMPOSSIBLE SITUATION BY CITING UNAACCEPTABLE UNESCO RESOLUTION CUTTING OFF FUNDS FOR ISRE AS BASIS FOR SUGGESTING LEMAIRE PRESENCE IN JERUSALEM. HAD PROPOSAL BEN MADE FOR LEMAIRE TO COME ON SAME BASIS AS PREVIOUSLY, KIDRON, SAID, ISRAELI REPLY WOULD NOT HAVE BEN SO CATEGORIC. IN ANY EVENT, HE THOUGHT CURRENT HOSITITLIY TO UNESCO HERE PROCULDED EAELY VISIT BY UNESCO REP. PERVASIVE HERE.

2. THIS DID NOT MENA, KIDRON ASSERTED, THAT BASIC ISRAELI " POLICY" HAD CHANGED FROM THAT CONVEYED TO EMBASSY IN NOVEMBER(REF B), I.E. THAT THERE WAS NO OBJECTIO TO LEMAIRE VISITING JERUSALEM ON AD HOC BASIS AS PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE OF DIRGEN. FAILUR OF M'BOW TO MAKE DISTINCTION BETWEEN COMING ON THIS BASIS AND COMING IN CONTEXT

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OF UNACCEPTABLE RESOLUTION LFT ISRALEIS, NO CHOICE, KIDRON

SAID. HE ADDED THAT ISRAELIS HAD TRIED TO DRAFT THEIR
REPLY TO M'BOW IN SUCH A WAY AS TO LEAVE LOOPHOLES THAT WOULD
PERMIT REOPENING OF THIS ISSUE AT SOME FUTURE TIME.

3. COMMENT: ISRAELIS SEEM ADAMANT IN THIS POSITION. WHETHER
WE AGREE WITH IT OR NOT, WE SEE NO PROSPECT OF ANY IMMEDIATE CHANGE.

4. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING TEXTS OF M'BOW'S
LETTER AND ISRAELI REPLY, IF THEY ARE AVAILABLE TO DEPT
OR PARIS.
KEATING

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, RELATIONS WITH INTERNATIONAL ORGS, VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: buchantr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975TELAV01529
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750081-0297
From: TEL AVIV
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750370/aaaacliq.tel
Line Count: 72
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 75 STAT 47537
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: buchantr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13 MAY 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <08 OCT 2003 by buchantr>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ISRAEL AND UNESCO
TAGS: AORG, PORG, IS, US, UNESCO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006